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| 09/945,480 | 08/31/2001 | Laurence A. Beck | 01CON234P | 3226 |
| 25700 | 7590 | 06/08/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| FARJAMI & FARJAMI LLP 26522 LA ALAMEDA AVENUE, SUITE 360 MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691 | | | ENG, GEORGE | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2643 | |

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/945,480

Applicant(s)

BECK, LAURENCE A.

Examiner

George Eng

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed 1/18/2005.

Double Patenting

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-27 of U.S. Patent No. 6,731,726 (Kerner) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,118,857 (Terschluse).

Take claim 1 of the present application as an example. Kerner discloses a communication method between for use between a first modem, i.e., a local modem, with a second modem, i.e., a host, while the local modem is in communication with a remote modem through a central office, the method comprising the steps of receiving an alert signal from said central office indicating an incoming call, acknowledging said alter signal, notifying said remote modem of a modem-on-

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hold state, collecting calling identification, informing said host of said alert signal, receiving an caller identification request, and transmitting call identification to said host, and receiving an answer request from said host to answer said incoming call (see claims 1 and 5-10). Kerner differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching an in-band caller identification request, an in-band caller identification message or an in-band answer request, which are embedded in a data stream being communicated between the local modem and the host. However, Terschluse teaches a data transmission method having special signals, i.e., call-waiting signal or caller identification signal, that are contained in a received signal, such that special signals are embedded in a data stream being communicated, in order prevent disturbance to a data connection at a modem as a calling waiting signal being arrived while data connection is taking place (col. 6 lines 44-46). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Kerner including all the limitations as taught by Terschluse to achieve the claimed invention because it prevents disturbance to data connection at modem as a calling waiting signal being arrived while data connection is taking place.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-6 and 8-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Civanlar et al. (EP 0741481A2 hereinafter Civanlar) in view of DePond et al. (US PAT. 6,317,488 hereinafter DePond) and Terschluse (US PAT. 6,118,857).

Regarding claim 1, Civanlar discloses a communication for use between a local modem (102, figure 1) and a host (106, figure 1) while said local modem is in communication with a remote modem 104, figure 1) through a central office, said method comprising the steps of receiving an alert signal from said central office indicating an incoming call, acknowledging said alert signal, notifying said remote modem of a modem-on-hold state, informing said host of said alert signal, and receiving answer request from said host to answer said incoming call (col. 3 line 33 through col. 8 line 12). Civanlar differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the steps of collecting caller identification received from said central office, receiving an in-band caller identification request from said host for said caller identification, and transmitting said caller identification to said host using an in-band caller identification message. However, DePond teaches a telephone call manager for collecting caller identification received from the central office by transmitting a caller identification request to the central office for the caller identification and receiving the caller identification from the central office using an in-band signaling message (col. 2 line 39 through col. 3 line 22), thereby providing notification of incoming call waiting and call waiting caller ID while the telephone line is being used by a computer modem. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Civanlar in having the steps of collecting caller identification received from said central office, receiving an caller identification request from said host for said caller identification, and transmitting said caller identification to said host

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using an caller identification message, as per teaching of DePond, in order to provide notification of incoming call waiting and call waiting caller ID while the telephone line is being used by the computer modem. Furthermore, neither Civanlar nor DePond specifically discloses an in-band caller identification request, an in-band caller identification message or an in-band answer request, which are embedded in a data stream being communicated between the local modem and the host. However, Terschluse teaches a modem having means for detecting special signals contained in received signals at times while data communication is taking place on a subscriber line in order to prevent disturbance to data connection at modem as a calling waiting signal being arrived while data connection is taking place (abstract and col. 4 line 56 through col. 5 line 63). Note the special signals are contained in received signals so that one skill in the art would recognize the special signals are embedded in a data stream of the received signal. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify in having the in-band caller identification request, the in-band caller identification message or the in-band answer request, which are embedded in the data stream being communicated between the local modem and the host, as per teaching of Terschluse in order to prevent disturbance to data connection at modem as a calling waiting signal being arrived while data connection is taking place.

Regarding claim 2, Civanlar discloses the step of receiving a hold acknowledgement from the remote modem in response to the notifying step (col. 7 lines 24-27).

Regarding claim 3, Civanlar teaches the hold acknowledgment including a hold time, wherein the method further comprising the steps of receiving hold time request from the host and transmitting said hold time to the host using an in-band hold time message (col. 9 lines 21-42),

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and Terschluse teaches to embed the special signals in the data stream of the received signal (col. 4 lines 59-62). Thus, the combination of Civanlar, Depond and Terschluse teaches the claimed limitations.

Regarding claim 4, Civanlar teaches the step of requesting the remote modem to enter the modem-on-hold state (col. 7 lines 33-36).

Regarding claims 5-6, DePond teaches the step of informing uses a ring signal or ring message to inform the host of the alert signal (col. 2 lines 61-65), and Terschluse teaches to embed the special signals in the data stream of the received signal (col. 4 lines 59-62). Thus, the combination of Civanlar, Depond and Terschluse teaches the claimed limitations.

Regarding claim 8, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 1.

Regarding claim 9, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 2.

Regarding claim 10, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 3.

Regarding claim 11, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 4.

Regarding claims 12-13, the limitations of the claims are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claims 5-6.

Regarding claim 14, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 1.

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Regarding claim 15, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 2.

Regarding claim 16, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 3.

Regarding claim 17, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 4.

Regarding claims 18-19, the limitations of the claims are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claims 5-6.

6. Claims 7 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Civanlar et al. (EP 0741481A2 hereinafter Civanlar) in view of DePond et al. (US PAT. 6,317,488 hereinafter DePond) and Terschluse (US PAT. 6,118,857) as applied to claims above, and further in view of O'Horo et al. (US PAT. 5,519,767 hereinafter O'Horo).

Regarding claim 7, the combination of Civanlar, DePond and Terschluse differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the steps of receiving a disconnect reply from said remote modem in response to the notifying step and transmitting a disconnect request to said remote modem after the host informs the local modem of its desire to answer the incoming call. However, O'Horo teaches such (figure 3 and col. 4 line 49 through col. 5 line 22). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Civanlar, DePond and Terschluse in having the steps of receiving a disconnect reply from said remote modem in response to the notifying step and transmitting a disconnect request to said remote modem after the host informs the local modem

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of its desire to answer the incoming call, as per teaching of O'Horo, in order to simplify the construction of modem.

Regarding claim 20, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 7.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Benson (US PAT. 6,104,800) discloses a method for providing call waiting notification to a party engaged in a data call by merging the call waiting data portion with the data call (abstract). Ferry et al. (US PAT. 5,805,677) discloses an apparatus for facilitating the display of information relating to the origin of a third party by recognizing signaling information embedded in a composite signal (col. 2 line 30 through col. 8 line 65).

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Eng whose telephone number is 703-308-9555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri 7:30 AM-6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A. Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

George Eng
Primary Examiner
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